



I

TOTNES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1967

PRESENTED BY
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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TOTNES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1967

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This report is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/68 dated January, 1968. Included is the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector.

Until the end of March 1967 the Health Departments of the Totnes Rural District and Totnes Municipal Borough were amalgamated, but after that date Totnes Borough decided to have a separate Health Department again. The break up of this partnership reduced the number of health inspectors available to the Rural District so that there are now only two Public Health Inspectors on the staff.

No great variation in the vital statistics occurred but there was a small outbreak of measles in the early part of the year. It is anticipated that after a measles vaccination campaign being carried out by Devon County Council is effective that the number of cases of measles will be substantially reduced in much the same way as cases of Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis have practically been abolished by immunisation procedures.

I wish to thank the Councillors for their support during the year and also thank my colleagues on the staff for their co-operation in producing this Report.

JOHN WILDMAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

AUGUST, 1968.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1967

CHAIRMAN: Councillor R.C.W. Coates.
VICE CHAIRMAN: Councillor Major W.J. Hockings,
T.D.
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: Councillor J.D. Warren, J.P.
together with all members of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John Wildman. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Full time appointment commenced 17th July, 1967)

PART-TIME DEPUTY M.O.H.

Mary E. Budding, M.B.B.Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F.B. Elliott, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Department,
Follaton House,
Plymouth Road, Totnes. Tel: Totnes 2481 (6 lines)

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E.P.G. Bennett, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Department,
Follaton House,
Plymouth Road, Totnes.

CLERK/TYPIST, PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mrs. J. Evans.

M.O.H. CENTRAL OFFICE

Area No. 5 - South West Devon,
Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Plympton, Plymouth. Tel: Plymouth 36644

M.O.H. CLERK

Miss G. Prowse. Tel: Plymouth 36644

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1967

Table 1

(Figures for 1966 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION:

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Totnes Rural District

15,990 (15,980)

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|--------|
| Natural increase or decrease | ... | ... | - 52 | (-51) |
| Migration in or out | ... | ... | + 62 | (+121) |
| Total increase or decrease | ... | ... | + 10 | (+70) |
| Population at 1961 Census | ... | ... | 14968 | |

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area of Totnes Rural District in Acres

80,978

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

6,541 (6,498)

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| Number of houses per acre | ... | ... | 0.081 | |
| Number of persons per acre | ... | ... | 0.197 | |
| Number of persons per house | ... | ... | 2.443 | |
| Dwellings owned by Council | ... | ... | 667 | (610) |

Rateable Value of District (1st April)

£525,156 (£482,800)

Sum represented by a penny rate

£2,085 (£1900)

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1967

Table 2

(Figures for 1966 are shown in brackets)

BIRTHS

| | | |
|--|-----|----------------|
| <u>Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population</u> | ... | 15.1 (17.4) |
| Area comparability factor for births | ... | 1.27 (1.27) |

| <u>Number of live births</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | 84 | 88 | 172 |
| Illegitimate | 11 | 8 | 19 |
| Total | 95 | 96 | 191 |
| <u>Number of still births</u> | 2 | 0 | 2 |

DEATHS

| | | |
|---|-----|----------------|
| <u>Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population</u> | ... | 9.1 (9.6) |
| Area comparability factor for deaths | ... | 0.60 (0.57) |

| <u>Number of deaths</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| All ages - total | 127 | 116 | 243 |
| <u>Deaths of infants under 1 yr.</u> | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number under 4 weeks of age | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number under 1 week of age | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | |
|---|-----|-----------------|
| <u>Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births</u> | ... | 0.0. (7.254) |
|---|-----|-----------------|

COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>Birth rate</u> | 17.2 (17.7) | <u>Death rate</u> | 11.2 (11.7) |
| <u>Infantile mortality rate</u> | 18.3 (19.0) | (Infants under 1 yr. of age) | |

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1967

| <u>Line</u> | | <u>M</u> | <u>F</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|---|----------|----------|--------------|
| | ALL CAUSES | 127 | 116 | 243 |
| 1. | Tuberculosis, respiratory | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 2. | Tuberculosis, other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | Syphilitic disease | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Diphtheria | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Whooping cough | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Accute Poliomyelitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Measles | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases .. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasms, stomach | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 11. | " " , lungs, bronchus | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 12. | " " , breast | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| 13. | " " , uterus | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms . | 15 | 9 | 24 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. | Diabetes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | 22 | 27 | 49 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | 30 | 19 | 49 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | 9 | 17 | 26 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| 22. | Influenza | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Pneumonia | 13 | 10 | 23 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 31. | Congenital malformations | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. | 10 | 9 | 19 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 34. | All other accidents | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 35. | Suicide | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | 0 | 1 | 1 |

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Hospitals

The Rural District is served by hospitals in Totnes, Dartmouth, Paignton, Newton Abbot, Ashburton, Torquay and Bittaford.

2. Laboratory Facilities

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory services at Exeter and Plymouth. The chemical analysis of water is undertaken by Public Analysts at Exeter.

3. Mass Miniature Radiography

The Unit visited main towns in the area once a fortnight throughout the year and all persons living in the rural parishes were easily able to obtain chest x-rays.

4. County Health Services

Under the National Health Services Act, 1946, the County Council provides the following services:-

Domiciliary midwives, home nurses, health visitors, supervisory care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five, ambulance services, vaccination and immunisation procedures, home help services and the care of persons suffering from illness or mental disorders, and the aftercare of such persons.

Nine district nurse/midwives work in the district together with four health visitors and a nursing assistant. Child welfare clinics are held at regular intervals at South Brent, Stoke Gabriel and Kingswear.

The home help service is provided by the County Council. A chiropody service has now been introduced for the handicapped, the aged and expectant mothers. Chiropody clinics are held in Stoke Gabriel, Ashburton, Buckfastleigh and Totnes.

5. Family Planning Service

A clinic is held at the Central Clinic, Midvale Road, Paignton every first and third Monday of the month, 6.00 to 7.30 p.m.; every 2nd and 4th Monday, 2.00 to 3.30 p.m. A clinic is also held at the Adult Education Centre, Dartington, on the 3rd Tuesday afternoon of alternate months beginning in January of each year.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table 1

| <u>DISEASE</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>AGE GROUP IN YEARS</u> | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|------|----|------------|
| | | Under 1 | 1to | 5to | 15to | 25 | Over 65 |
| Scarlet fever | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Measles | 246 | 6 | 93 | 135 | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| Dysentery | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis (lungs) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Table 2

| <u>DISEASE</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>INCIDENCE BY QUARTERS</u> | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
| Scarlet fever | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Measles | 246 | 168 | 58 | 18 | 2 |
| Dysentery | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis (lungs) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION

In accordance with the requirements of the World Health Regulations 99 certificates of Smallpox or Cholera vaccinations in respect of persons travelling abroad were authenticated by the Public Health Department.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47 Just before Christmas 1967 it was necessary to obtain a Magistrates Order under the 1951 Amendment of the above Act to remove to hospital an elderly lady of 91½ years who was ill and in need of care and attention. She lived at Marldon. She died early in January, 1968.

Section 50 No burials took place under this Section.

SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water

Most properties in the Rural District receive a water supply from the South West Devon Water Board mains.

DWELLINGS SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS

| PARISH | 1965-66 Est. Pop. | No. dwellings with piped water supply (direct) | No. dwellings relying on standpipes |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| Ashprington | 335 | 76 | - |
| Berry Pomeroy | 372 | 61 | - |
| Buckfastleigh West | 286 | 43 | - |
| Churston Ferrers | 2218 | 682 | - |
| Cornworthy | 294 | 41 | - |
| Dartington | 1266 | 89 | - |
| Dean Prior | 307 | 14 | - |
| Diptford | 310 | 77 | - |
| Dittisham | 512 | 171 | 2 |
| Halwell | 221 | 57 | 3 |
| Harberton | | | |
| Harberton Ward) | | | |
| Harbertonford Ward) | 905 | 74 | 1 |
| Holne | 354 | 61 | - |
| Kingswear | 706 | 242 | - |
| Littlehempston | 203 | 35 | - |
| Marldon | 1446 | 474 | 1 |
| Moreleigh | 112 | 26 | - |
| North Huish | 359 | 70 | - |
| Rattery | 375 | 89 | - |
| South Brent | 1853 | 494 | - |
| Staverton | 614 | 98 | - |
| Stoke Gabriel | 1033 | 367 | - |
| Ugborough | 2087 | 354 | 1 |

Samples were frequently taken during the year and unsatisfactory sources were re-sampled. Mains water was suggested in several instances.

2. Refuse Collection and Disposal

The weekly refuse collection service has been maintained throughout the year.

3. Civic Amenities Act, 1967, Part III

The coming into operation of this Act on the 27th July has given Local Authorities additional powers and duties in relation to the removal of abandoned motor vehicles and other refuse and has greatly eased the Public Health Department's duties in keeping lay-bys and verges clean and tidy.

4. Sewerage and sewage disposal

Galampton Sewage Disposal Works:- Work on the construction of these new works was completed in August, 1967.

(Note: These works are scheduled to be handed over to the Torbay County Borough Council when it comes into being on 1st April, 1968.)

Berry Pomeroy:- A scheme is awaiting Ministry approval.

Ugborough:- A scheme for the modernisation of these works was prepared and is awaiting Ministry approval.

5. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Action here is designed to be mainly preventative as opposed to curative. This is effected in large measure by routine visits to refuse tips, sewage works and other vulnerable premises, and the annual treatment of sewers.

The Council shared the services of a Rodent Operator with one other Authority.

6. Visits of Public Health Inspectors during 1967

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|----|
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | 279 | Rodent Control | 16 |
| Housing | 43 | Fumes | 38 |
| Housing re-inspection | 161 | Abandoned Vehicles and Civic | |
| Housing Grant Aid | 268 | Amenities Act | 12 |
| Building Inspection | 237 | Pests | 4 |
| Unsound Food | 13 | Slaughterhouses | 6 |
| Drainage | 255 | Scrap Metal Dealers | 2 |
| Meat Inspection | 159 | Vehicle Maintenance | 9 |
| Water | 50 | Accumulations | 1 |
| Infectious Disease Prevention | 39 | Litter | 51 |
| Offices, Shops and Railway | | Burial Grounds | 11 |
| premises | 3 | Food Hygiene | 34 |
| Nuisances | 111 | Disease of Animals | 5 |
| Moveable Dwellings | 122 | Factory Acts | 14 |
| Petroleum | 27 | Animal Boarding Establishments | 5 |

Total - 1975

7. Caravans

| <u>Address of Site</u> | <u>Type of Licence</u> | <u>No. of 'vans</u> |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bathill Camp, Greenway Road, Galampton, Churston. | Seasonal | 56 |
| Blue Post Filling Station, Harberton | Tourist/Transit | 12 |
| Littlecombe, Holne | Residential | 1 |
| Widdicombe Farm, Compton, Marlton | Residential | 1 |
| Smokey House Inn, Marlton | Residential | 5 |
| Webland Farm, Avonwick, South Brent | Part Residential Part Holiday | 4 22 |
| Bittaford Wood, Ugborough | Residential | 24 |
| The Glen, Ludbrook, Ugborough | Seasonal | 1 |
| Folly Cross, Wrangaton, Ugborough | Touring | 15 |
| Marsh Park, Wrangaton, Ugborough | Residential | 2 |
| Edeswell Farm, Rattery | Holiday | 27 |

Summary

Number of residential 'vans - 37
 Number of holiday 'vans - 49
 Number of seasonal 'vans - 57
 Number of tourist 'vans - 27

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Legal action was taken against the owner of a farm in Stoke Gabriel who was using land which was un-licensed as a caravan site and fines of £25 were imposed on him on each field involved.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

| Type of shop | Total No. | No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (hand washing facilities) | No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applied. (separate sinks) | No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|--|--|
| Grocery and general provisions | 46 | 40 | 23 | 20 |
| Bakehouses | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bread and confectionary | 14 | 10 | 1 | 1 |
| Butchers | 6 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Slaughterhouses | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Fish | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Licensed Houses, Hotels and Inns. | 29 | 26 | 29 | 27 |
| Cafes | 7 | 7 | 5 | 4 |
| School and works canteens | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 107 | 94 | 64 | 59 |

2. Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

During the year the undermentioned food stuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Tinned Meat - 26 lb.
Fish - 8 x 5 stone boxes

3. Meat condemned in slaughterhouses at South Brent and Ugborough

Beef 119½ lbs.
Mutton and lamb 150 lbs.
Pork 45½ lbs.

4. Knackers Yard, Bittaford

A case of anthrax was reported on the 18th May and on investigation it was found that the animal had been brought in 3 days previously; by this time some of the meat had been distributed. However, with the co-operation of neighbouring Local Authorities all infected meat was traced and destroyed within 24 hours.

5. Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

| | Beasts excluding cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| Number killed and inspected. | 53 | 90 | 5 | 826 | 308 |
| All diseases except TB and Cysticercosis - whole carcase condemned | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 9 | 1 | - | 9 | 8 |
| % of number inspected aff- ected with disease | 17% | 10% | - | 8.3% | 2.6% |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u> - whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases from which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| % of number inspected aff- ected with TB | - | - | - | - | 1.4% |

| | Beasts excluding cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|---|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| <u>Cysticercosis -</u> | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - |

SECTION F

HOUSING

1. Unfit Houses

During the year 1 Demolition Order and 1 Closing Order were made, 1 Demolition Order and 2 Closing Orders were rescinded and 2 Undertakings were cancelled.

2. Improvement Grants

Discretionary

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--------------|
| a) | Properties approved for grant | 24 |
| b) | Total amount of grant | £8853. 5. 1. |
| c) | Average per dwelling | £ 368. 9. 4. |
| d) | Grants paid during the year | 30 |
| e) | Total amount | £9230.16. 7. |

Standard

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--------------|
| a) | Properties approved for grant | 19 |
| b) | Total maximum grant | £3440.15. 7. |
| c) | Grants paid during the year | 25 |
| d) | Total amount | £4231.12. 1. |

APPENDIX A

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1967 FOR THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF TOTNES IN

THE COUNTY OF DEVON

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

(i) Factories without Mechanical Power
(Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6)

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number on Register | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Inspections | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Written Notices | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Occupiers prosecuted | ... | ... | ... | 0 |

(ii) Factories with Mechanical Power
(Section 7)

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number on Register | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Inspections | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Written Notices | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Occupiers presecuted | ... | ... | ... | 0 |

(iii) Other Premises under the Act
(Section 7)

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building
Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but
excluding Outworkers' Premises)

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number on Register | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Inspections | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Written Notices | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Occupiers prosecuted | ... | ... | ... | 0 |

2. Cases in which defects were found

See table overleaf.

2. Cases in which defects were found

| Particulars | Found | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|---|-------|---|---------------|---------------|--|
| | | Remedied | Referred: | | |
| | | | To H.M. Insp. | By H.M. Insp. | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 3 | 3 | - | 1 | - |

PART 8 - OUTWORK

SECTIONS 133 AND 134

During 1967 there was one outworker in the district.

Section 133

| Nature of work | No. of outworkers in August list | No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to Council | No. of pros- ecutions for failure to supply lists. |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----|-----|
| Making wearing apparel | 1 | Nil | Nil |
|---------------------------|---|-----|-----|

Section 134

| No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices Served | Prosecutions |
|--|----------------|--------------|
|--|----------------|--------------|

| | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| Nil | Nil | Nil |
|-----|-----|-----|
